

school for the study of perspective, to which request he inquired what I was studying for? and on my informing him, he replied,—"We do not profess to teach architecture, because it interferes with the right of private individuals."

Now, Sir, it occurred to me, could not a school be established at which the student might attend after office hours, in which architecture might be exclusively taught? And what is to prevent such being the case if a number of us club together, and put our shoulders to the wheel and form it? The advantages such a scheme would offer to the architectural student must be obvious to all; it would not only be the means of mutually improving ourselves, but it would unite together as a band of friends all the future members of the profession; and if under the superintendence of an eminent member of the profession, who would be engaged to direct us in our studies, would prove of the greatest advantage to all. By some it may be argued—we might be able to study by ourselves without going to the expense of belonging to a society like the one proposed; but I would inquire—do the majority of those who are studying for the architectural profession possess facilities for drawing? Does every architectural student possess a good architectural library, drawings, &c. &c. I think not; but by union we might possess a spacious school, a good library, casts, drawings, and, in fact, every thing necessary for study at very small expense to each. I would, therefore, earnestly request the established members of the profession to give us their valuable aid, and to assist us in our scheme; for if they countenance it, our success is certain. Perhaps it may be considered, that by establishing a society like that now proposed, we intimate that we do not consider we have sufficient facilities afforded us for improving ourselves in the office. But such is not the case; our object is to obtain as much knowledge as possible, so that we may be better able to perform its duties, and to fit ourselves to undertake the responsible duties of the profession in after years.

Humbly apologizing for trespassing so much upon the columns of your valuable journal, I remain, Mr. Editor, yours most respectfully,
AN ARCHITECTURAL STUDENT.

PROVINCIAL NEWS.

HER MAJESTY'S builder, Mr. Jenner, has contracted with the Woods and Forests for the enlargement of one of the towers of Windsor Castle, that, namely, on the south-west side of the Round Tower, hitherto appropriated for the offices of the resident clerk of the works. An entire story is to be added, and new rooms and offices formed in the basement. Mr. Turnbull, the newly appointed clerk of the works at Windsor, is to occupy the tower as a residence. Hampton-court Palace is visited every Sunday by 6,000 persons, chiefly, of course, from the metropolis. The little town of Folkestone is at present in a bustle from the progress of various works of some importance to its reviving prospects. The extension of the south pier is going on rapidly. The divers are still at work. The piling for deepening the mouth of the harbour is in steady progress. A number of good houses are being built, and there is a good deal of general traffic. It is intended, also, to extend the west pier and the tram road in connection with it, by throwing a strong bridge for the trains to pass across to a station near the Pavilion Hotel; the passage of vessels being, of course, provided for by an intervening swing in the bridge. At Portland, engineers are actively engaged in preparations for the projected breakwater, and arrangements for the most convenient mode of communication with the island for the transmission of materials. The break-water, it appears, will be directed eastward, from a point a little to the northward of the Old Castle. The works at Devonport are to be pushed on with the utmost rapidity, so that it is expected one of the basins will be opened for the admission of steamers in about 3½ years from the present time. There will be two immense basins; the north basin 630 feet by 625 feet; and the south basin 625 feet by 560 feet; each holding a depth of 27 feet of water, and admitting 18 first-class vessels to be fitted out, or 25 of all classes. There will be three large docks; the north dock, 300 feet

long by 94 feet wide, for first-rates; another 406 feet long by 82 feet wide, for steamers of the largest class; and the south dock 300 feet long by 82 feet wide. The entrance lock will permit steamers to be docked at ebb tide in 18 feet of water, spring tide, and may be used as a dock when required. The factory is to contain all sorts of machinery for the repair of steam-engines, and will be 800 feet long by 320 feet broad, including boiler, rigging, and store-houses. Vessels will here be passed from the first department to the last in succession, so as to be ready for sea when ready to quit the basin.—The expiry of the time allowed for the lodgment of tenders for supplying the city of Bristol with gas for a term of years, has ushered in a further reduction by both of the present companies in their price of gas to 6s. per 1,000 cubic feet, with a discount on large quantities.—The high cross in the market place at Glastonbury has been completed.—Amongst the improvements contemplated at Dorchester, is that of a public cemetery (joint-parochial we presume, as recommended by our correspondent, Mr. Parry).—The new church of St. Andrew, Bordesley, is to be consecrated on the 30th instant.—The Manchester Parks Committee have been agreeably surprised to find that there is no such deficiency (of 500L) in their funds as they supposed. The following appears to be the statement of their general expenditure:—

Purchase of three parks and buildings thereon	£25,000
Messrs. Pimm and Richardson, the contractors	5,400
Mr. Warburton, wood-fencing	1,000
Trees and shrubs	800
	£30,200

The tenders for refreshment rooms, already lodged, were not so numerous as was expected. They were to be examined on Monday. The committee meant to recommend the council to authorize the expenditure of 1,200L in providing garden tools and additional apparatus, and also proper conveniences, and other accommodations for visitors.—A new Roman Catholic Church is about to be erected near the Musdlands railway station, at Preston; 1,000L have been already subscribed.—The Health of Towns Committee, at Hull, have resolved to recommend to the council an addition of six public baths to the two now in progress; two of them to be immediately erected in the most densely populated parts of the town.—On Thursday week a portion of the Edinburgh Western Cemetery was formally consecrated by Dr. Terrot, the bishop of the diocese.—The new moiety of Greyfriars Church, at Edinburgh, called the New Greyfriars, which, in common with the older portion, suffered extensive damage by fire about a year and a half ago, has been repaired and re-opened.—A gas-work chimney 320 feet high, has been erected at Edinburgh. It rests on a pedestal, and is so built, as to form an ornamental object.

TO PREVENT STAINS FROM SMOKY BRICKS.

SIR,—I beg leave to inform "W. N." of a simple and cheap method of preventing any stain from smoked bricks (be they ever so bad), passing through plastering. The first particular proof of the efficacy of my method was in the year 1808, at a tanner's in this town, who had a very large old-fashioned chimney, part of which he wanted to convert into a closet, and the other part to be occupied by a then modern Bath stove. The part of the interior of the chimney, intended for the closet, I arched over, but a great difficulty was to be overcome in plastering it.

As nothing but the refuse bark or tan used in his trade, had been burnt on the hearth for many years, the interior of the chimney was encrusted over, not with soot, but with a hard pitchy substance, about three-fourths of an inch or more in thickness. This substance I chiselled off to the face of the brickwork; the bricks were also stained nearly through. I first plastered them over with a thick rough coat of well-haired cinder ash mortar, which I left to be thoroughly dry before I laid on a second, but rather finer coat of the same materials, which I floated off, and left for a third coat of fine white stuff, which was laid on when the second coat was nearly dry;

afterwards I whitewashed it, and not a single stain appeared through the plastering, nor for several years did I ever see one in it, and believe to this day there never was one. The next job of a similar nature, a year or two after, was at a lake-office chimney, where I adopted a similar method, and with the same success. I went this very day, after reading the article in *THE BUILDER*, and inspected the closet. It has been repeatedly whitewashed, but not a single stain appears, though thirty-three or thirty-four years have elapsed. I have invariably adopted the same method, and with the same success in many other cases. The purer the cinder ashes, and the more of them used with the lime and hair, the better.

I am, Sir, &c., A. J. GREEN,
Bricklayer.

Sudbury, Suffolk, Sept. 13, 1846.

* Another correspondent on the same subject ("J. C.") says he has effectually overcome the evil complained of "by cutting out the plaster about one inch longer and wider than the smoky brick, putting in a piece of slate the same size close to the brick, and plastering it over. This should be done after the first coat of plaster is laid on, as every smoky brick is then to be seen." Several others say, that if the first coat of plastering be made like the ordinary cow-dung pargeting, no stain will appear. It has given us gratification to receive more than a dozen replies to the inquiry.

WESTMINSTER COURT OF SEWERS.

At a court held on Friday, the 14th instant, Capt. Bague in the chair, the clerk reported that the sum of 16,184L 15s. 4d. remained in the hands of the bankers. Petitions were then granted for building 3,014 feet of sewer, for laying 242 drains, and for stopping 71 drains. 107 new gully drains were ordered to be put in.

On the motion of Mr. Cumberlege, seconded by Mr. Le Breton, Mr. Phillips was appointed chief surveyor to this commission from the 6th September instant.

It was moved by Mr. Cumberlege, and seconded by Mr. John White, "That an enlargement of Buckingham Palace being contemplated, the surveyor report upon the King's Scholar's Pond Sewer as it affects the palace, and vice versa; and also generally, with a view to consider whether any better line than the present may be adopted." Carried by 6 to 2. Mr. Rennie's report thereon of the 27th May, 1806, was to be reprinted and circulated to the commissioners.

On Friday, the 14th inst., Mr. F. Chalmers in the chair, a letter was read complaining of the state of the sewerage in Stephen-street, Lisson-grove. The court ordered that the several improvements of the sewerage of the neighbourhood, proposed in the surveyor's report, be approved, and carried out as early as possible.

Tenders for the court-house were opened as follows:—

Foot	£228	5	0
Basket	214	19	10
Warne	211	9	0
Joy	212	3	6

Joy's tender was accepted.

A general specification of works for building sewers, prepared and submitted by the surveyor, was considered and adopted, and tenders for several works were ordered to be advertised for, to be opened at two o'clock on Friday, 2nd October.

Several reports from the surveyor were then read; among which was one for improving the drainage of St. Anne's court, and Edward-street, Soho, and one for covering in an open sewer at the back of Cromwell-lane, Old Brompton.—Ordered, that the proposed works be done.

Upon the motion of Mr. Cumberlege, seconded by Mr. Gunter, the court resolved, nem. con., "that the salary of the chief surveyor be fixed at 400L per annum."

Thos. Rowe, clerk of works, reported that a sewer recently built, near Notting-hill, had in many parts been executed in a slovenly and unworkmanlike manner.—Ordered, that the defective parts be forthwith taken down and rebuilt. Adjourned to Friday, 2nd October.